



1 OCT \$2.95 US

FURMAN  
WILDMAN

# TRANSFORMERS WAR WITHIN

THE DARK AGES

DIRECT SALES







# TRANSFORMERS WAR WITHIN

THE DARK AGES

1

OCT

\$2.95

US

FURMAN  
WILDMAN





# THE DARK AGES

PENCILS  
ANDREW WILDMAN

**INKS** ERIK SANDER

**COLORS** ESPEN GRUNDETJERN

ROB RUFFOLO  
RAMIL SUNGA

LETTER: BENJAMIN LEE

PAT LEE

**DEPUTY EDITOR IN CHIEF**  
**ROGER LEE**

**PREVIOUSLY IN**

TRANSFORMERS: THE WAR WITHIN

Cybertron, long before the Transformers came to Earth... civil war rages across the planet, the inhabitants divided into Autobots and Decepticons. But behind Megatron's overt show of force is a long-term strategy to turn the planet into a star-going Warworld. When Autobot leader Sentinel Prime is killed, the Matrix – the sacred life force of the Transformers – is passed to Optimus Prime, who is subsequently lured into subterranean Cybertron. There, Megatron and Prime battle, and the Matrix casing is cracked, granting both an illuminating glimpse of the future. Determined now that the Decepticons must be stopped, at all costs, Prime vows to kill Megatron. Starscream, having assumed command of the Decepticons, activates a Mechaforming Substructure under the surface of Cybertron, which proceeds to devastate Iacon. Prime defeats Megatron, but leaves him alive, reining in the beast within. He vows to fight on, to regroup under Iacon.

**CVR A: Don Figueroa**  
with Erik Sander, Alan Wang

**CUR B: Pat Lee**  
with Elaine To, Rob Ruffolo

**INCENTIVE CUR:** Pat Lee  
with Erik Sander, Rob Ruffolo

**OF CUR:** Andrew Wildman  
with Erik Sander, Alan Wang

TRANSFORMERS: *Hasbro: "The Dark Ages,"* June 1, Vol. 2, October 2003 First Printing. Published by Diamondview Productions, 11400 Parkway, Suite 200 Markham, Ontario L3R 9T8, Canada. HASBRO and its logo, TRANSFORMERS and all related characters are trademarks of Hasbro and are used with permission. © 2003 Hasbro. All Rights Reserved. Any similarities between names, characters, persons, or institutions with those of the living or dead is unintentional and is purely coincidental. With the exception of artwork used for review purposes, none of the contents of this publication may be printed without the permission of its respective owner. Printed in Canada.

DREAMWAVEPROD.COM

TRANSFORMERS.COM





BEFORE:

MEGATRON--





CYBERTRON:

POLAR STATE:  
KAON.

WE'RE  
NOT FINISHED,  
YOU AND I!

WHAT?  
PRIME!

NO!

YOU MANIAC!  
THE SPACE BRIDGE  
IS ONLY CONFIGURED  
FOR ONE! DO YOU KNOW  
WHAT YOU'VE  
DONE?

I KNOW.

N-UHH!

SHRAK-AA-OOOOW!



AFTER:

PSYCH

PSYCH

PSYCH

CHOOM





CYBERTRON.  
WELL...



...IT'S BEEN  
A LONG TIME!

"WHAT'S IT  
ALL ABOUT, EH?"



THEN:

MOON ALPHA,  
SPACEPORT:

I MEAN, WHERE'S THIS  
GLORIOUS UNIVERSAL  
*DESTINY* AND BIRTHRIGHT  
THE *HIGH COUNCIL* USED  
TO HARP ON ABOUT?

WE WON'T  
FIND IT *HERE*,  
THAT'S FOR  
SURE.

KUP--

THING IS,  
IT'S BEEN *DRUMMED*  
INTO US--WE'RE SOMETHING  
SPECIAL, PART OF SOME  
GRAND *COSMIC* SCHEME--  
AND YET HERE WE ARE...

...STILL *STUCK*  
ON CYBERTRON, ENDLESSLY  
TEARING EACH OTHER APART  
OVER WHO OWNS *WHAT*, WHO  
CALLS THE SHOTS *WHERE*.

HOW *INSIGNIFICANT*  
AND *TRIVIAL* THIS MUST  
ALL SEEM, SET AGAINST THE  
VASTNESS OF OUTER SPACE,  
FROM *THAT* PERSPECTIVE,  
AS A RACE...

...WE'RE  
STANDING  
STILL.





KUP--

I MEAN, IT'S NOT LIKE WE CAN'T GET FROM HERE TO THERE, A FEW *LIGHT YEARS* THIS WAY OR THAT WAY... BUT WE STILL HAVEN'T REALLY BEEN *OUT THERE*!



KUP--

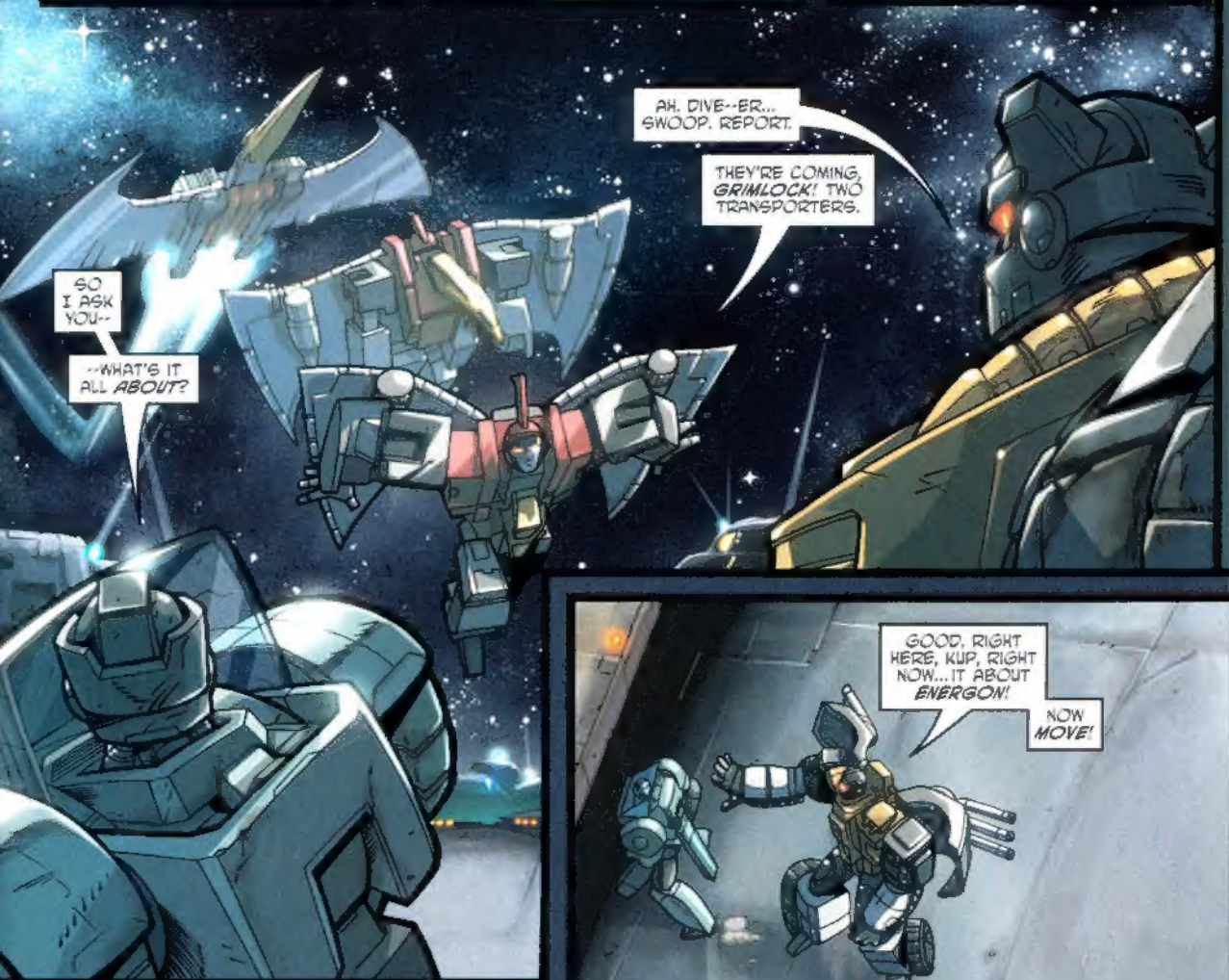
MEGATRON UNDERSTOOD. HENCE THE SPACE BRIDGE PROGRAM. HE'D BEEN, *SEEN* AND...

WELL, WE KNOW HOW *THAT* TURNED OUT.



...ABOUT WHAT'S TO *COME*!

IF ONLY WE COULD REMEMBER WHAT CAME BEFORE. IT MIGHT GIVE US SOME CLUE...



AH, DIVE--ER... SWOOP. REPORT.

THEY'RE COMING, *GRIMLOCK*! TWO TRANSPORTERS.

SO I ASK YOU--

--WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?



GOOD. RIGHT HERE, KUP. RIGHT NOW... IT ABOUT *ENERGON*!

NOW MOVE!



CYBERTRON: FORMER  
HUB CAPITAL, IACON.

VIRTUE'S FORUM:





AUTOBASE:  
COMMAND/TACTICAL.

WE'VE GOT  
A PROBLEM

TELL  
ME SOMETHING  
I DON'T KNOW

THERE'S  
ULTRACON ACTIVITY  
IN THE DISPUTED  
TAGAN HEIGHTS.

PREDACON  
SKIRMISHES ON  
URAYA'S BORDERS.

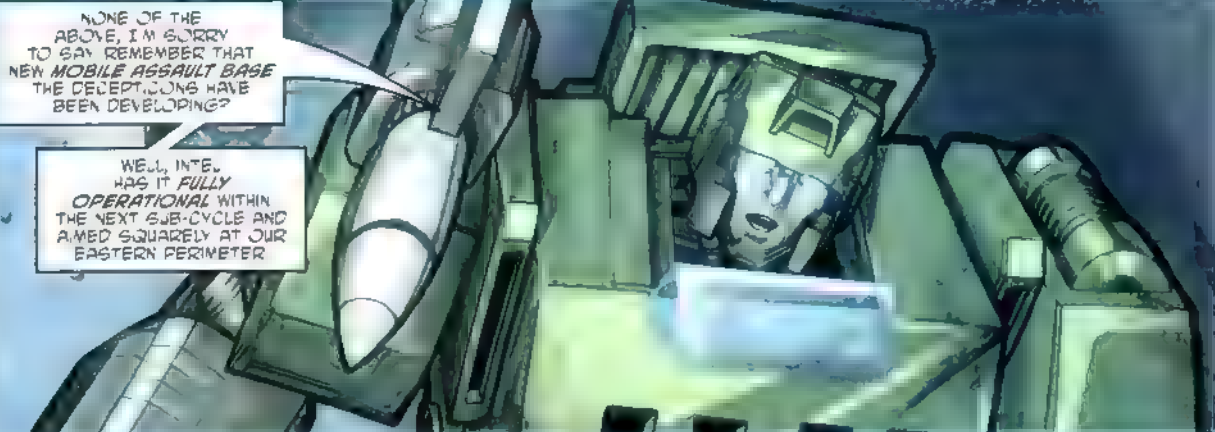
AND A  
LARGE DECEPTICON  
FORCE MASSING ON  
THE KALIS FRONT

WHICH  
PARTICULAR  
PROBLEM.

... DID  
YOU HAVE  
IN MIND?

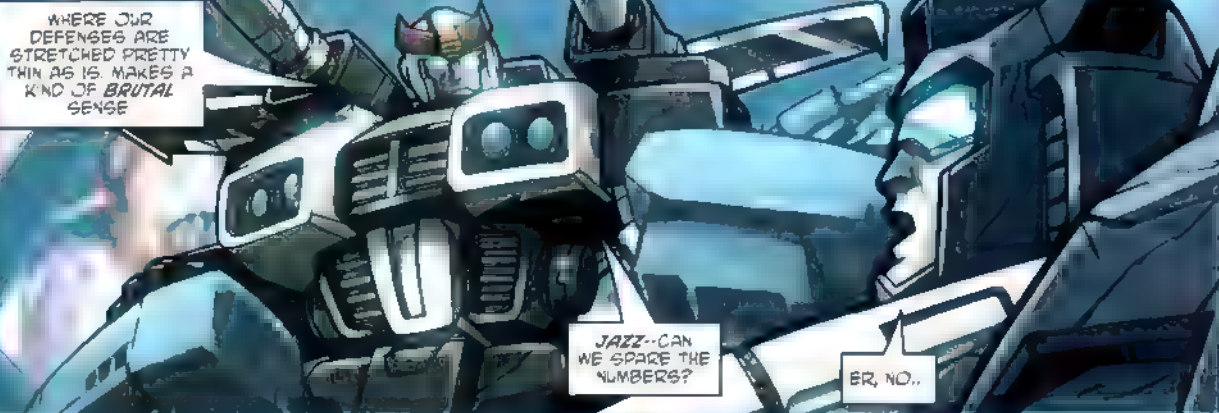






NONE OF THE ABOVE, I'M SORRY TO SAY REMEMBER THAT NEW **MOBILE ASSAULT BASE** THE DECEPTICONS HAVE BEEN DEVELOPING?


WELL, INTEL HAS IT **FULLY OPERATIONAL** WITHIN THE NEXT SUB-CYCLE AND AIMED SQUARELY AT OUR EASTERN PERIMETER



WHERE OUR DEFENSES ARE STRETCHED PRETTY THIN AS IS. MAKES A KIND OF **BRUTAL** SENSE

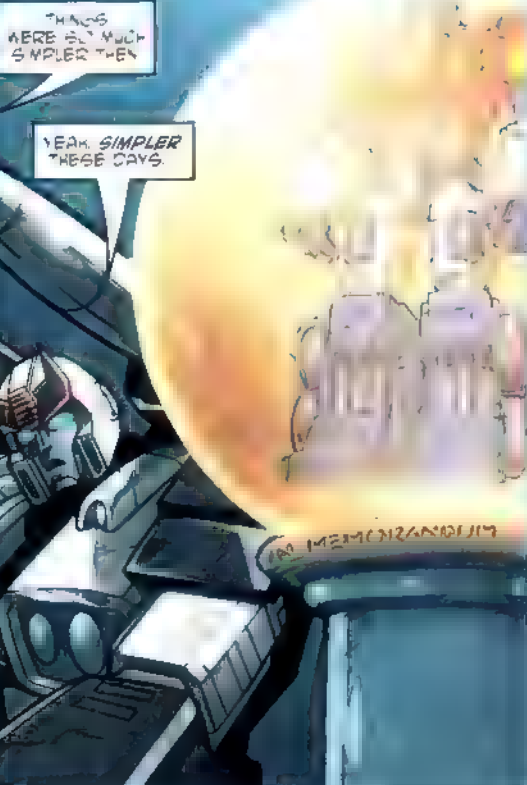
JAZZ--CAN WE SPARE THE NUMBERS?

ER, NO..



...BUT WE ... MUSTER **SOME** KIND OF RESPONSE ALWAYS DO, RIGHT?

HEH REMEMBER WHEN WE WERE ALL ONE BIG **HAPPY FAMILY**? NO **WRECKERS**, NO **L-S-C**, JUST PLAIN OLD **AUTOBOTS**.



THINGS WERE SO MUCH **SIMPLER** THEN

YEAH **SIMPLER** THESE DAYS.

100 MEMORANDUM



"...IT'S HARD TO  
KNOW WHO THE  
ENEMY REALLY IS"

ORBITAL TORUS  
STATE: KALIS

AGENTS OF  
VENGEANCE DARK  
SCIENCES HAVE  
SUMMONED YOU

AND NOW  
WE COMMAND  
YOU

SEEK OUT  
OUR FORESWORN  
ENEMIES

AND IN  
THE NAME OF  
THE CHAOS  
TRINITY

BRING DOWN  
FIRE AND FURY ON  
THE M - JUBE

BRAVO!  
BRAVO!



DRAMATIC  
BEYOND  
WORDS..

...BUT  
ALL SHOW  
AND NO REAL  
SUBSTANCE

OH  
WELL  
THEN

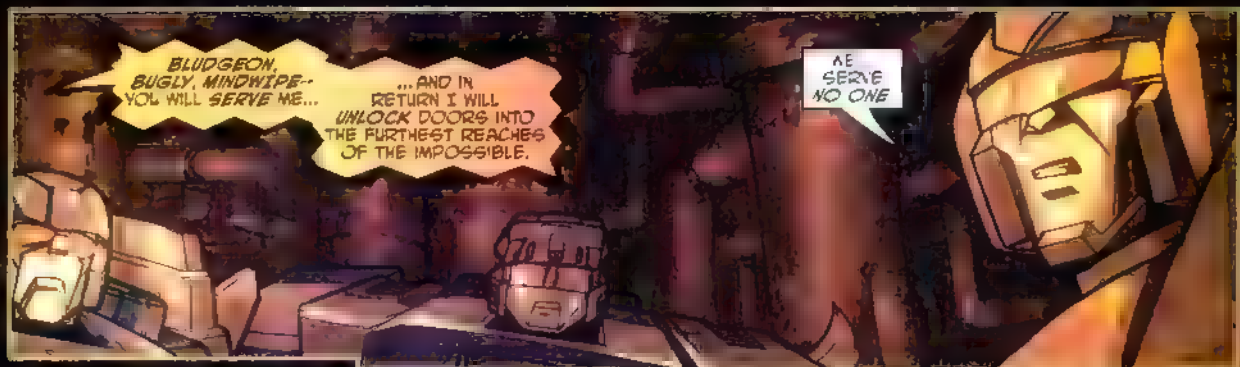
--THIS  
REALLY WON'T  
HURT!

YOU SKIRT  
ON THE EDGES  
OF UNDERSTANDING,  
DABBING IN THE  
SHALLOWS OF  
CHAOTIC OCEANS.

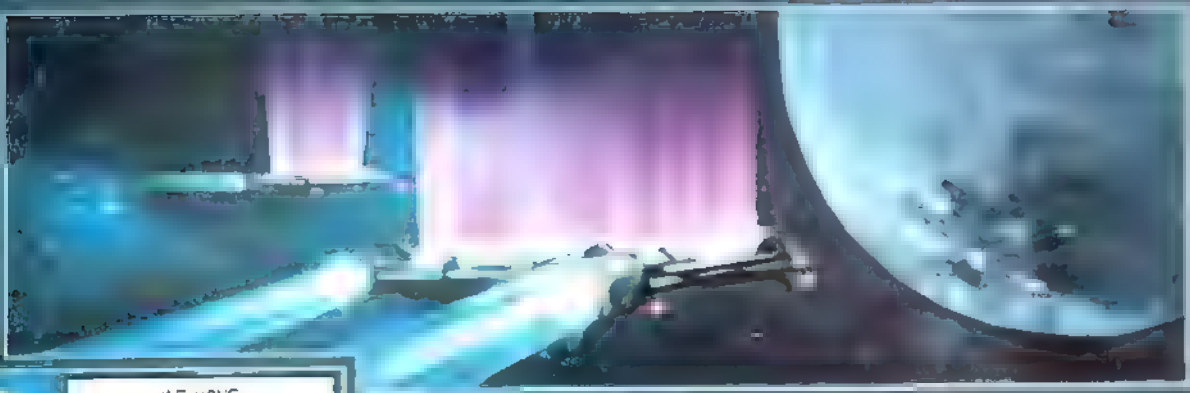
I OFFER  
FORBIDDEN FRUIT,  
TIMELOST SECRETS,  
POWER...

BEYOND  
MEASURE!









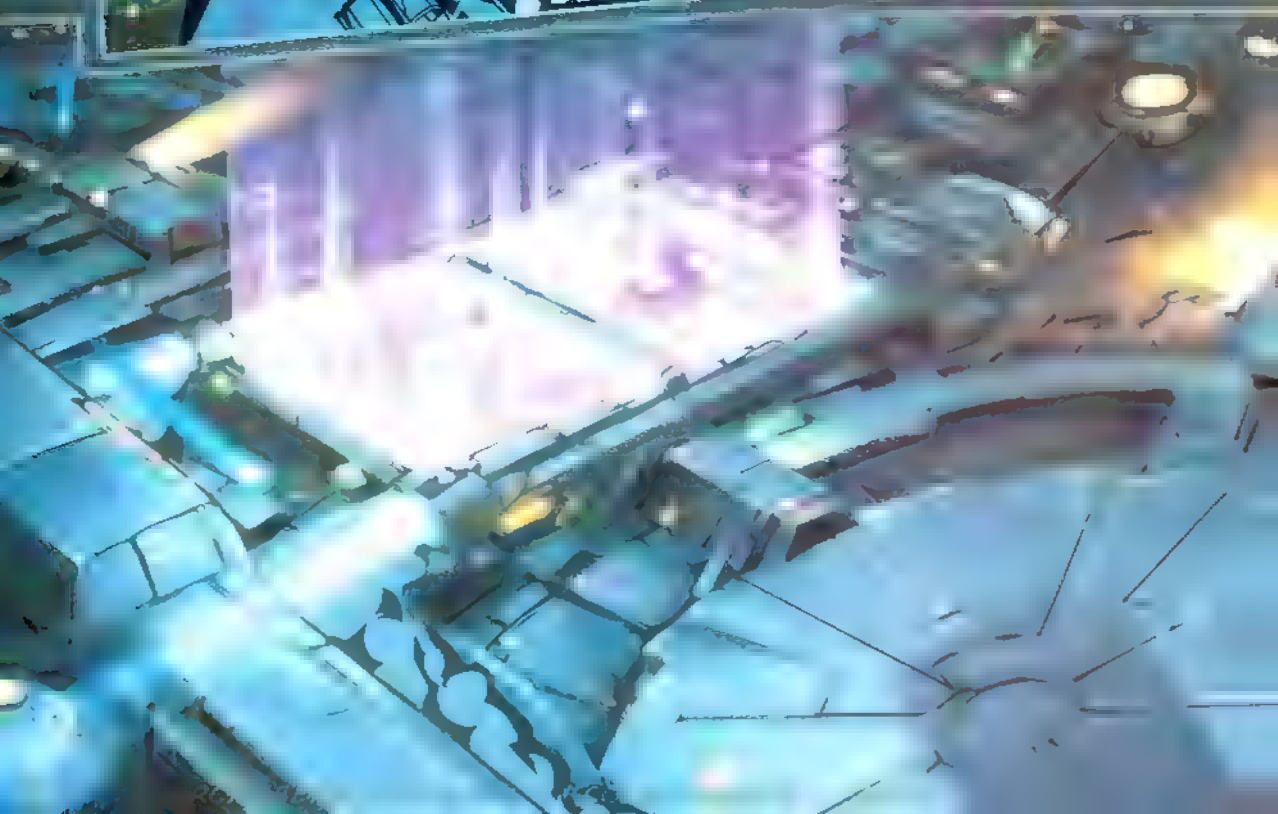
WE HAVE  
GROUND CLEARANCE,  
STARSCREAM. PREDACON  
CODES CHECK OUT

INITIATING  
LANDING  
PROTOCOL

FINE

BUT KEEP YOUR  
OPTICS ON LINE EVERY  
TRANSFORMER AND HIS  
PROTOFORM MUST  
BE TO GET THE  
HANDS ON THIS CASE

RAW ENERGO--  
ENOUGH TO TIP THE  
BALANCE OF POWER  
SQUARELY IN  
OUR FAVOR





I DON'T GO  
TO ALL THE TROUBLE  
OF STEALING - FOR THE  
PRECAUTIONER CAUSE

JUST TO  
HAVE ONE OF THE  
OTHER PLAYERS  
READ THE BENEFIT!

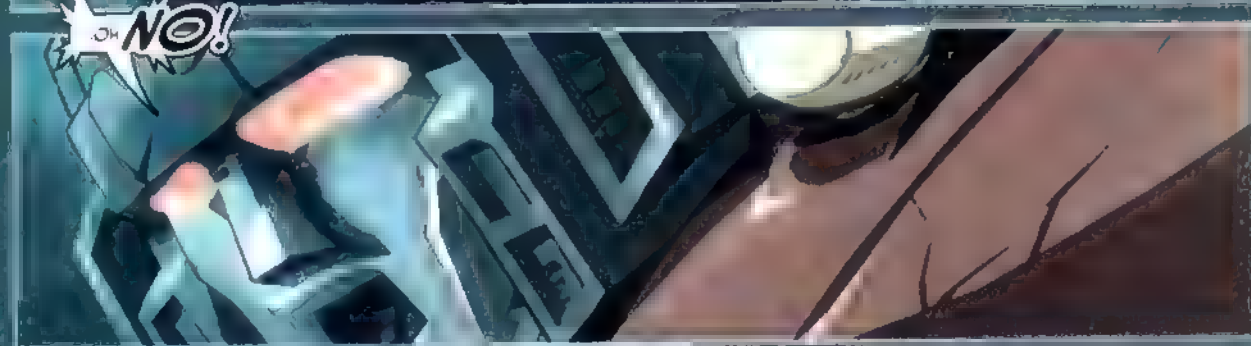
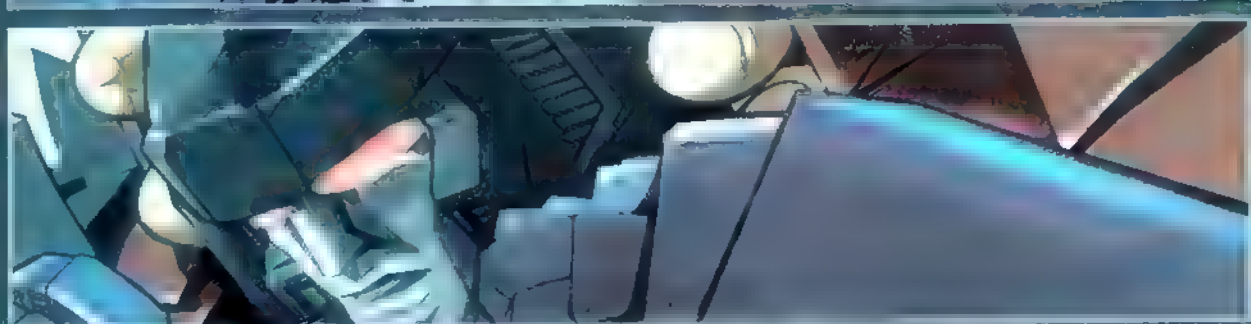
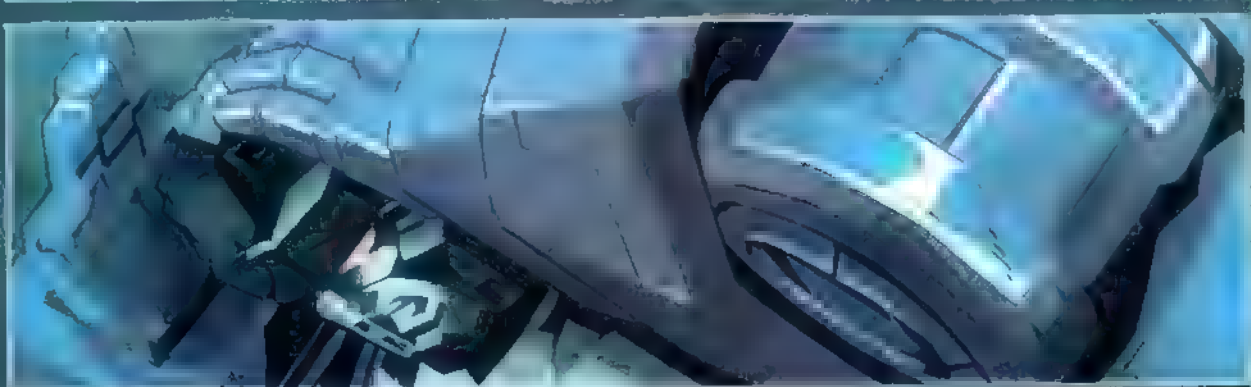
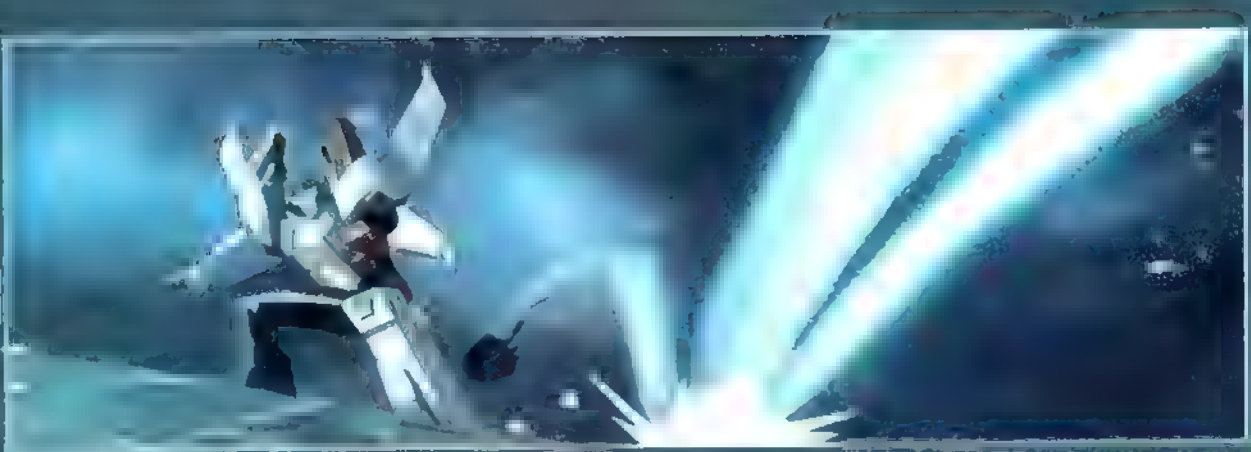
WHERE  
IS EVERYONE?  
STORMBRINGER?  
PULSE? HARDCASE?

IF THEY'RE  
ON SYSTEM  
HATSU, I...

HEY

"INCOMING!"










OH YES

LIGHTNING-  
STRIKE-  
COALITION--


--KICK  
SOME PRED  
BUTT!



SIGNAL  
TRANSPORTER TWO  
I WANT EVERYONE OUT  
HERE, ARMED AND FIGHTING.  
THERE'S ONLY SIX  
OF THEM.

YEAH





"...BUT SIX OF  
THE WORST!"

BETTER  
BELIEVE  
IT!

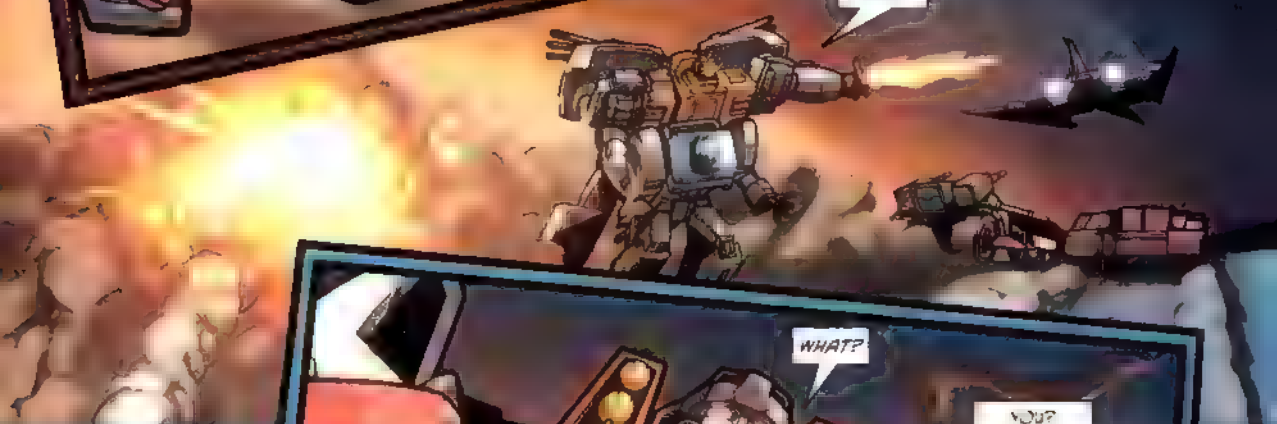
ENJOY  
THE MOMENT,  
GRIMLOCK

-YOU HAVE  
SO VERY FEW  
LEFT NOW!

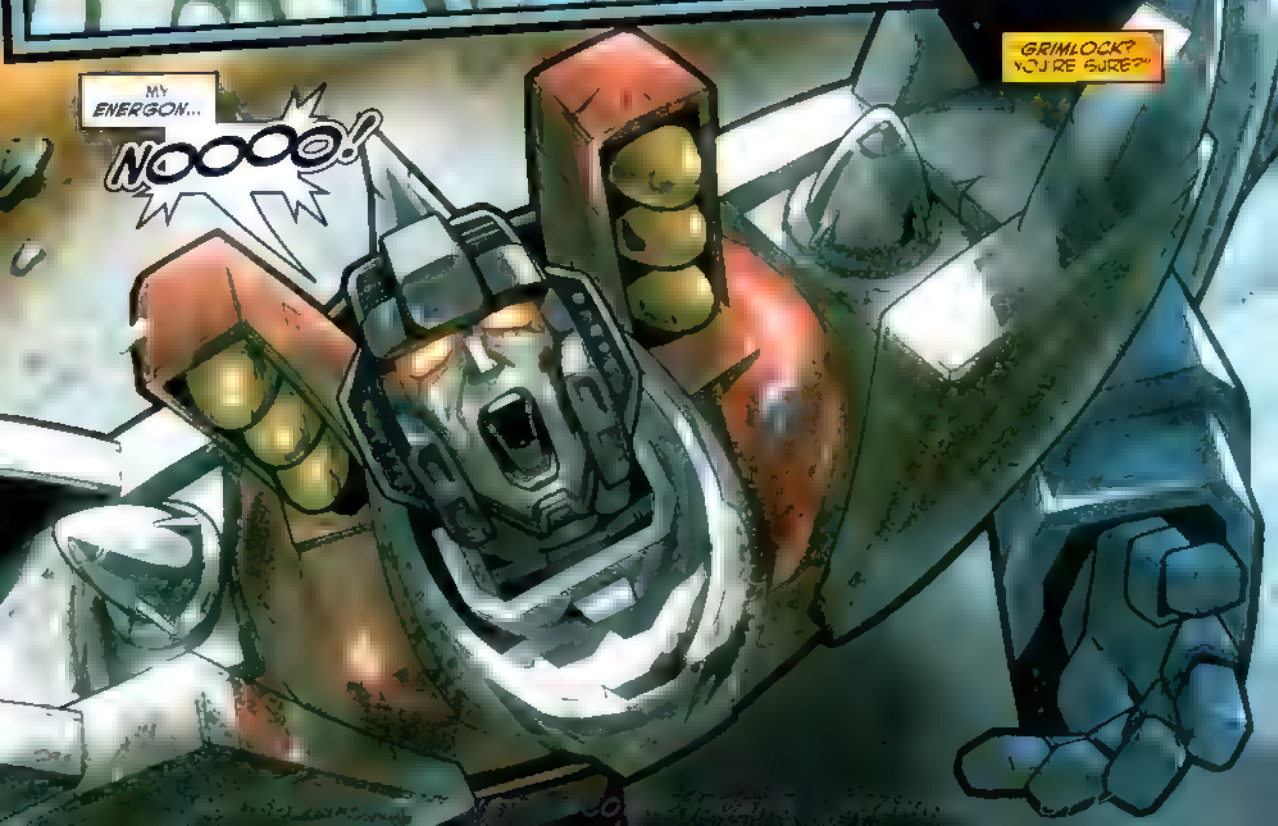




--FALL  
BACK!











CYBERTRON, WITHIN

WON'T BE EASY  
HE'S WELL PROTECTED THE  
LIGHTNING STRIKE LOCATION  
IS A JAW INTO ITSELF SMALL  
SCALE BUT AUDACIOUS

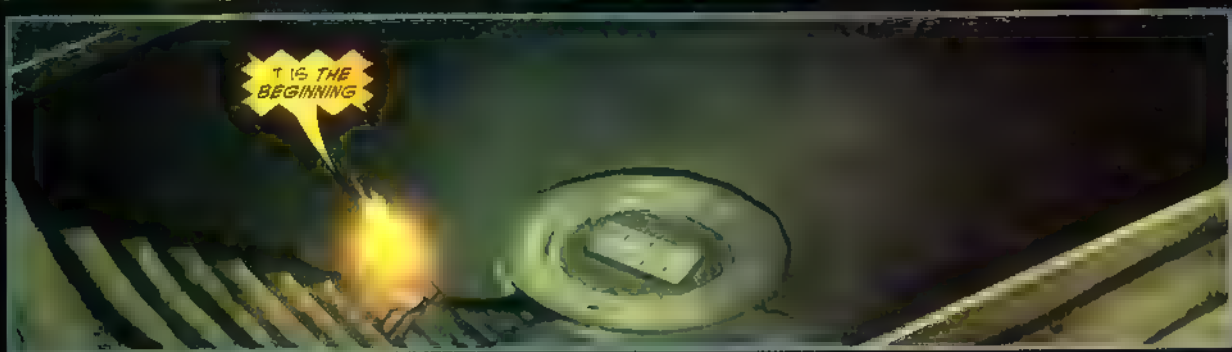
THEY'VE GAINED  
A LOT OF GROUND AND  
POWER IN THE LAST FEW  
MEGA CYCLES THEY'RE  
A VERY TIGHT JNT







AND  
IS THE  
PLACED



IT IS THE  
BEGINNING



AND  
THE END

TO BE CONTINUED



# FROM THE DESK OF... DON FIGUEROA

Okay, it's that time of the year again, convention season! And this year I'm stoked. "The War Within" is all done and I will get to finally talk to my fellow Transfans about it in person. I want to know what you guys liked and disliked about the series.

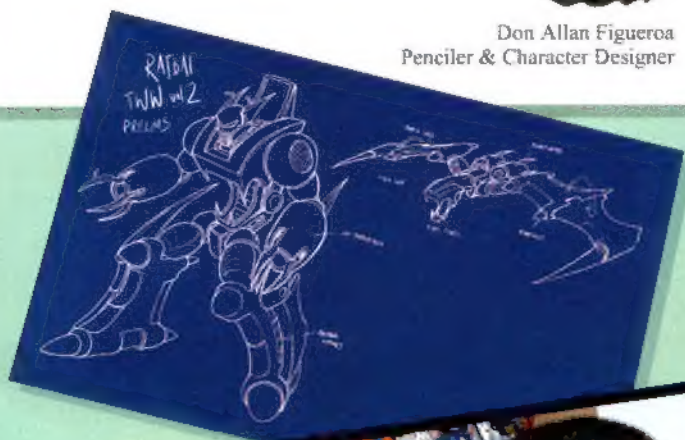
Since the series started, I've gotten tons of emails asking if there will be toys based on the 'new/retro' look. Personally, I'd love to see these on toy shelves, but it probably won't happen any time soon. The same goes for the World War 2 TF designs in the upcoming Transformers/G.I. Joe cross-over, but hey, you never know! Speaking of which, I can't wait to see what John Ney Rieber and Jae Lee have in store.

Right now I've got another exciting project ahead, Transformers Armada! I'm going to give Guido Guidi a much deserved break; he's had a fantastic run and it won't be an easy act to follow. And of course, I get to work with Simon Furman again! "Worlds Collide" man, can you believe it? G1 and Armada together! To quote good ol' J.R. "It's gonna be a slobber-knocker!"

After this gig, look for me to team-up for the first time with writer Brad Mick on an all-new TF series. Transfans have been asking for this one ever since Dreamwave first got their hands of the big bots... I can't wait to get started!

**WCK**

Don Allan Figueroa  
Penciler & Character Designer



## YOUR DW CHECKLIST ✓ OCTOBER

**SPOTLIGHT**

CAPCOM VS. CAPCOM  
CALENDAR ☐

It's Capcom, it's Dreamwave...what else do you need to know? All-new art by Ed McGuinness, Pat Lee, Hyung-Tae Kim, Mark Brooks, and more!



DARKMINDS  
MACROPOLIS VOL. II #2 ☐

MEGA MAN #2 ☐

SHIDIMA VOL.1 TPB ☐

TEENAGE MUTANT  
NINJA TURTLES #5 ☐

TRANSFORMERS #16  
ARMADA ☐

TRANSFORMERS #7  
MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE ☐

TRANSFORMERS #3  
/G.I. JOE ☐

**SPOTLIGHT**

WAR WITHIN #1  
THE DARK AGES ☐

Simon Furman &  
Andrew Wildman.  
REUNITE!

The second chapter of  
the epic WAR WITHIN  
saga sheds light on...  
The Dark Ages!



### DREAMWAVE STAFF

PRESIDENT PAT LEE  
VP/EDITOR-IN-CHIEF ROGER LEE  
CREATIVE DIRECTOR JAMES McDONOUGH  
ART DIRECTOR ROB RUFFOLO  
DIRECTOR OF MANAGEMENT DEREK CHOO-WING  
DIRECTOR OF POST-PRODUCTION MATT MOYLAN  
PRE-PRESS/PROJECT MANAGER TED PUN  
PROJECT MANAGER GRAHAM CRUZ  
NEW BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT RICH YOUNG  
PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER CANDICE CHAN



# DECLARATIONS OF WAR

Howdy Transfans!

Hope you enjoyed the first issue of the all-new War Within: "The Dark Ages". Now how would you like a chance to win a way-cool War Within prize pack? Dreamwave wants YOU to redesign your favorite Transformers character as they might have appeared in the War Within era, and then send in a drawing of your new design. You can choose a character who's already shown up in the series such as Grimlock or Starscream, or start from scratch by picking someone totally new like Hot Rod or Blurr. The artist with the most original character design will win a copy of the War Within Vol.1 TPB, copies of all 4 covers to War Within "The Dark Ages" #1, and more! Send your entries to either one of the addresses at the bottom of the page. All entries must be received by November 5, 2003. We'll announce the winner in a future letters column.

Here are some of your comments on the original War Within Vol.1 series, now available as a spiffy Trade Paperback:

Dear Dreamwave,

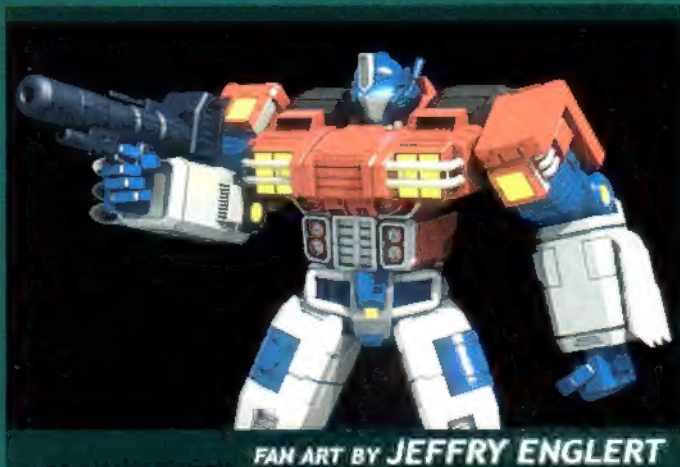
I just recently saw the Transformers: The War Within comic Volume One, and the pre-Earth forms of the Generation One Autobots and the Decepticons were, to put it mildly, WOW! There is one Transformer I'm just dying to see in his pre-Earth form, and that is Jetfire! You make even the 'geeky' Starscream and Bumblebee look fantastic, and I can only imagine what you did for Jetfire, everybody's favorite Autobot Air Guardian! Can you help me, or at least tell me what Transformers War Within comic issue Jetfire's going to be in, if at all? Please answer this e-mail as soon as possible! Thank you very much for your Time!

Eric C. Karau  
Rochester, MN

**Jetfire is definitely going to have a prominent role in War Within: "The Dark Ages". He hasn't popped up in the series yet, but he'll be showing up soon, we promise! Until then, you can get your Jetfire fix by picking up the Don Figueroa cover to this very issue (if you haven't already done so), featuring Don's redesigned Jetfire flying into battle.**

Dear Dreamwave,

I'd just like to start out by saying, I loved the mini series. This e-mail is to inquire about, seeing if you at DW, can get a toy line for your TWW mini series. I loved how



FAN ART BY JEFFRY ENGLERT

Optimus and all the others looked, and I was thinking how much as a collector of TF I'd love to own a Prime that looks so, unique.

Thank you kindly,  
Kenneth Cantley

**We'd all love to see the War Within crew in toy form! Quick War Within fact: Don Figueroa (DW's top TF character designer) makes sure that all his redesigned characters can ACTUALLY transform, and thus, the War Within designs would translate perfectly into toys. The final decision is up to Hasbro, makers of the Transformers toy line.**

Hello,

My name is Jeffery Englert, and I am an avid fan of all of your Transformers series. One comic series stands above all though is The War Within. The combination of Don Figueroa's superb designs coupled with Simon Furman's phenomenal talent as a writer has inspired me to create many pieces of fan art.

I love the amazing attention to detail that each character is given in the book, both in the design of the Transformers, and in the fantastic storytelling.

I am attaching a 3D rendered image of TWW Optimus Prime model I created.

Thanks for your time.  
Jeff Englert

**Great job Jeffery! We loved your 3D rendering so much we decided to show it of to the rest of Transformers-fandom.**

**Come back next month Transfans, for more of the biggest, baddest bots on the block. 'Til all are one!**

*Matt!*

Matt Moylan  
Director of Post-Production  
Dreamwave Productions

# DW LETTERS

WRITE TO US:  
WAVELENGTHS  
DREAMWAVE PRODUCTIONS  
11 ALLSTATE PARKWAY, SUITE 200  
MARKHAM, ONTARIO  
L3R 9T8 CANADA

E-MAIL US:  
WAVELENGTHS@DREAMWAVEPROD.CA

\*LETTERS MAY BE EDITED FOR  
LENGTH AND SPELLING.





What do George Lucas,  
Steven Spielberg,  
Ridley Scott,  
Robert Zemeckis  
and Jim Henson  
all have in common?

*The art of **Drew Struzan**.*

Drew Struzan is a legend in the world  
of cinema art, the creative mind  
behind movie posters for many of  
Hollywood's blockbuster movies —  
E.T., the Star Wars Trilogy,  
Indiana Jones, The Phantom Menace,  
Bladerunner, First Blood,  
The Thing, Back to the Future,  
Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone,  
and hundreds more.

His art is now available for the  
first time in *Drew Struzan: Oeuvre*,  
a 300-page, full-colour, hard-cover edition,  
published by Dreamwave Productions.

The volume will be available in  
stores in **November 2003**.

*drew.*



[www.dreamwaveprod.com](http://www.dreamwaveprod.com)







DIRECT SALES



8 23365 00827 2

Licensed by



Consumer  
Products